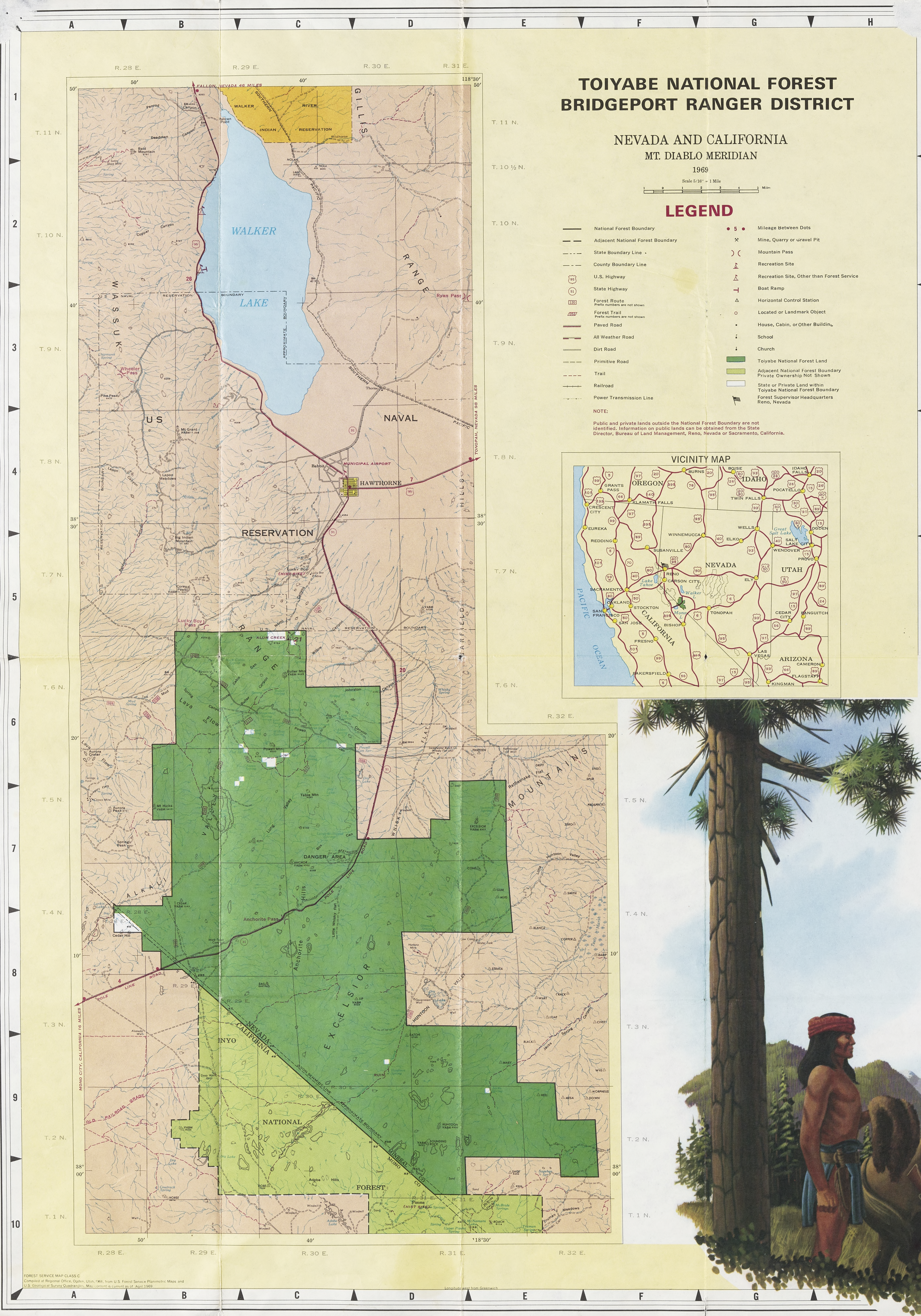


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SO. SIKHAMA DIVISION										SO. SIKHAMA DIVISION										
ACTIVITIES AND ATTRACTIONS										ACTIVITIES AND ATTRACTIONS										
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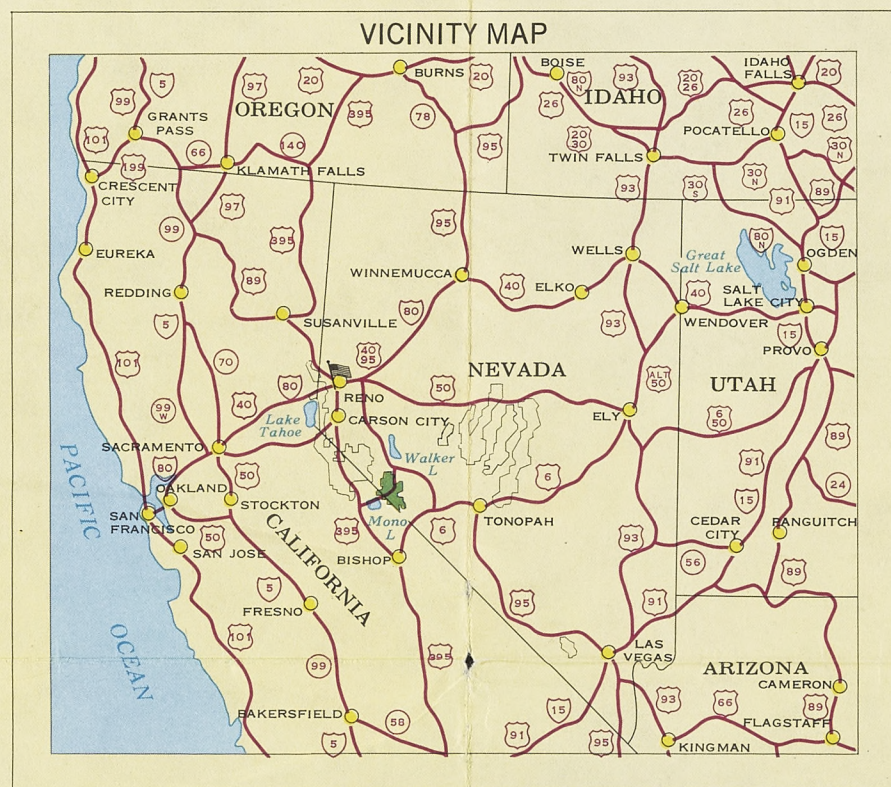
TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST
BRIDGEPORT RANGER DISTRICT

NEVADA AND CALIFORNIA
MT. DIABLO MERIDIAN
1969

LEGEND

- National Forest Boundary
- Adjacent National Forest Boundary
- State Boundary Line
- County Boundary Line
- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Forest Route
- Forest Trail
- Paved Road
- All Weather Road
- Dirt Road
- Primitive Road
- Trail
- Railroad
- Power Transmission Line
- Mileage Between Dots
- Mine, Quarry or uravel Pit
- Mountain Pass
- Recreation Site, Other than Forest Service
- Boat Ramp
- Horizontal Control Station
- Located or Landmark Object
- House, Cabin, or Other Building
- School
- Church
- Toiyabe National Forest Land
- Adjacent National Forest Boundary Private Ownership Not Shown
- State or Private Land within Toiyabe National Forest Boundary
- Forest Supervisor Headquarters Reno, Nevada

NOTE:
Public and private lands outside the National Forest boundary are not identified. Information on public lands can be obtained from the State Director, Bureau of Land Management, Reno, Nevada or Sacramento, California.



Toiyabe
National Forest

Carson Ranger District
Bridgeport Ranger District



The Alpine, West Walker, and Bridgeport Ranger Districts are located in the southern portion of the Sierra Division, Toiyabe National Forest.

The Toiyabe National Forest covers a large area of land with a great variation in scenery. The Sierra Division is characterized by tall pine trees and alpine lakes. In the Central Nevada Division the tall timber of the Sierra is replaced by western juniper and piñon pine. The Mount Charleston Division in southern Nevada is an island of mountains surrounded by desert. The high elevation of the Charleston Division provides winter and summer recreation for southern Nevada.

For vacationers interested in exploring the lands of the Toiyabe, a trip to a nearby Ranger's Office will be helpful. The Ranger will be most happy to provide maps or other assistance to make your Forest visit more enjoyable.

The names and locations of Forest Service Offices are listed:

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Forest Supervisor
Toiyabe National Forest
111 North Virginia Street
Room 601
Reno, Nevada 89501
- District Ranger
Austin Ranger District
Main Street, P.O. Box 130
Austin, Nevada 89310
- District Ranger
Tonopah Ranger District
141 Main Street
P.O. Box 989
Tonopah, Nevada 89049
- District Ranger
Bridgeport Ranger District
Highway 395
Bridgeport, California 93517
- District Ranger
Las Vegas Ranger District
Federal Bldg., Room 2-015
300 Las Vegas Blvd. South
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is committed to the policy that all persons shall have access to the programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, or national origin.

SOUTH SIERRA HISTORY

Great explorers, Indians, and mining booms led the parade of early history on the South Sierra Division of the Toiyabe National Forest. The Sierra Nevada was first crossed from west to east by Jedediah Smith in 1827. It was formerly generally accepted that he crossed the Sierra crest at Sonora Pass, but some historians now place the crossing at Ebbett's Pass.

Smith was searching for new trapping grounds, as well as the mythical Buenaventura River, which supposedly originated in the Rocky Mountains. It was shown on early maps as flowing into and out of the Great Salt Lake. It then crossed the Great Basin, flowing southwest in direction, and supposedly passed through a deep gorge in the Sierra Nevada on its way to the Pacific Ocean. Smith's accounts of his journey are very sketchy, and therefore have led to many differences of opinion on his route across the Sierra and the Great Basin.

Unlike Jedediah Smith, John Fremont kept an accurate record of his journey through the Sierra in 1843-1844. He explored parts of the Walker and Carson Rivers and reported several meetings with local Indians. He wrote of giving gifts to some of the Indians and trading for pine nuts. He also collected the type specimen from which the single-leaf piñon, Nevada State tree, was described and named. After great hardships, Fremont succeeded in crossing the main summit of the Sierra via Carson Pass in 1844. The written accounts of his journey were of great help to future pioneers headed west.

The Indians which Fremont encountered were members of the Paiute and Washoe tribes. The Washoe Indians roamed the eastern Sierra Nevada as far south as Sonora Pass. The pine nut was their main source of food, and they used it for trade with other tribes in California.

The Paiute Indians lived farther south on the eastern slopes of the Sierra and western valleys of the Great Basin. They were known for their skill in the production of bows, arrows and baskets. The Mono Paiutes were quite receptive to the white man when Mono Basin was settled. During the summer months the Monos were accustomed to travel from Mono Basin across the Sierra crest at Mono Pass to the Tuolumne Meadows area in present Yosemite National Park, to hunt and fish. In the fall they descended into the Yosemite Valley itself.

Genoa, the first settlement in Nevada, was founded in 1851. The hamlet, first known as Mormon Station, nestled against the eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada, was one of the principal way stations on the road to California. In the winter months Genoa was quite frequently cut off from all communications with California. Several contracts were let to carry mail over the Sierra during the winter months, but none of them were satisfactorily filled. In 1856 "Snowshoe" Thompson accepted the challenge and successfully made the mail run from Challerville to Genoa twice a month. His method of travel was on skis (snowshoes, as they were then known) which he had learned to use in his homeland of Norway. Many tales are told of his daring treks through the frozen reaches of Sierra Nevada. His story will be long remembered as a milestone in the history of the Sierra.

The first substantial gold rush on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada was at Dogtown and Monoville in 1859. This eventually led to mining on a grand scale in such booming centers as Aurora, Bodie, Lundy, and Masonic. Many fortunes were made and lost in those early stampedes to the silver and gold camps. Bodie was one of the wildest of the western mining camps; gambling, drinking, and killing were daily occurrences. A population of 10,000 lived in Bodie during its peak days, but today it has dwindled to a ghost town, protected from pilferage as a California State Park.

The south Sierra Division of the Toiyabe National Forest was formerly the Mono National Forest. It was officially transferred to the Toiyabe in 1945 and the combination was known as a Mono-Toiyabe National Forest. However, within a year the name Mono was dropped and the entire Forest became known as the Toiyabe. The Toiyabe National Forest is now the largest National Forest in the United States, exclusive of Alaska. It has an area of over three million acres. The name "Toiyabe" is of Indian origin, being a Shoshone word for "black mountains". "Toiyabe" was used by the Indians to describe the Toiyabe Mountains in Central Nevada. They have a black hue when viewed from a distance because of the dark green coloration of the piñon and juniper stands covering the range.



Hiking in the Hoover Wilderness.

WILDLIFE

The Toiyabe National Forest works closely with the California and Nevada Fish and Game Departments in the management of its wildlife. Hunting and fishing seasons are set by the States, and the harvest of wildlife is closely watched to maintain an effective balance between forage and animals. Wildlife management insures a sustained yield for the future.

The South Sierra Division is well stocked with mule deer and this species provides good hunting during the open season. Deer are often seen by visitors on the Toiyabe. If driving at night, one should be aware of deer signs. Many accidents are caused each year by motorists failing to heed the "deer crossing" road signs.

Other species of wildlife found in this area, include black bear, bobcats, porcupines, and most of the smaller forest inhabitants. Chukar partridge and sage grouse are scattered throughout the Forest.

The streams and lakes of the Toiyabe are inhabited by various species of trout. Most of the streams provide excellent angling for the fisherman.

One species that is in danger of becoming extinct is the Piute trout. This fish survives only in its native habitat in the upper reaches of Silver King Creek in Fishlake Valley. Their extremely bright colors and docile characteristics make these trout unique. The Piute trout is acknowledged as an endangered species and is provided protection in its native habitat area. Research by the Forest Service and the Department of California Fish and Game personnel is intended to aid in re-establishing the population of the Piute trout.

For further information on hunting or fishing seasons, please contact the California or Nevada Fish and Game Departments.



These campers are being good neighbors by keeping their pet on a leash.

FOREST PRODUCTS

Water is perhaps the most important resource of any forest. All water from the Toiyabe stays within the Great Basin and is vital to the metropolitan and agricultural areas of Nevada.

An important job faced by Forest Service personnel today is maintaining healthy watersheds. Cross-country vehicle travelers are cautioned to use care when traveling in the delicate watersheds of the Sweetwater Mountains and foothills of the Sierra. Water follows the ruts left by these vehicles, and soil erosion results in deep gullies.

The logging industry developed on the South Sierra Division to fill the needs of the mining towns that were sprouting up throughout the Mono Valley. Vast acreages of timber were cut to fill the needs of the mines. Today, timber is harvested on the Toiyabe under the sustained-yield principle to provide wood products while maintaining adequate growth for the future.

The primary species utilized are Jeffrey pine, ponderosa pine, white fir, red fir, and western white pine. These species are manufactured into lumber by local sawmills who purchase the timber from the Toiyabe. In some mills, the waste wood is manufactured into woodchips for processing into paper. Bark is utilized for ornamental landscaping material.

Grazing by domestic livestock is another use that is of great importance to ranchers near the Toiyabe. The early history of grazing on the forest was marked by cattle and sheep owners fighting over the grazing lands. Cattle and sheep often used the same areas with overgrazed ranges and badly damaged watersheds as the result.

When the Toiyabe National Forest was established, controls were placed on the kind of livestock allowed to graze. As a result, the range conditions are being improved. Range rehabilitation is carried out through the cooperation of the individual permittees and the Forest Service.

MAN + FIRE = DISASTER

Toiyabe National Forest personnel, as well as all other Federal and State employees, are constantly on the alert for wildfire. But even though fire prevention

campaigns have enlightened the public to the dangers and effects of forest and range fires, most destructive fires on the Toiyabe National Forest are man caused. Please abide by the rules and have a safe stay on the Forest.

Build your fire in a prepared campfire site. If you must build a fire circle, make sure there are no flammable materials within five feet of the fire. Build the fire in a hole and always have shovel, ax and water handy. When breaking camp, stir the coals while flooding them with water. Cover the fire with soil and pack it down. Do not build a fire during a strong wind. Campfire permits are required for fires built outside developed campgrounds in California.

Smokers are a major cause of fire damage on the Toiyabe National Forest. If you smoke, please be aware of the rules and restrictions on smoking.

WILDERNESS AREA

Every year millions of Americans converge on their National Forests in search of a restful vacation in a natural environment. If you long for peace and quiet, a trip into an established wilderness or primitive area would certainly prove rewarding.

The Hoover Wilderness area is located in the South Sierra Division of the Toiyabe. A wilderness is described by Congressional Act as follows:

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.

The Hoover Wilderness, consisting of 42,800 acres, is within the Toiyabe and Inyo National Forests. It is characterized by rugged mountains, alpine lakes, and rushing streams. The steep canyons lead to pleasant meadows and winding streams stocked with rainbow and eastern brook trout. It is the home of deer, bear, bobcat, and coyote, as well as an occasional mountain lion. Sage grouse and mountain quail are among the game birds in the area.

GEOLOGIC HISTORY

The eastern front of the Sierra Nevada Range, in the vicinity of Mt. Whitney, rises higher above its immediate surroundings than any other mountain front in the United States. This front is slightly less impressive in the Toiyabe National Forest but is, nevertheless, a massive wall of mountains. Near Minden, Nevada, the rise in elevation is nearly 6,000 feet in less than three horizontal miles.

This abrupt rise in elevation has resulted through millions of years of geologic sculpturing of the earth's surface. Volcanic flows combined with the uplifting, folding, and faulting of the earth's crust formed the mold of the Sierra Nevada. It was then left to glaciers of the Ice Age to add the finishing touch.

These occurrences have produced abundant natural beauty. The glacial moraines and lake-filled basins on the Bridgeport District are classic examples.

The scenic wonders produced by this geologic history gives the Toiyabe an ideal recreation setting for the thousands of vacationers that visit these mountains every year.

THINGS TO DO

- A trek into the Hoover Wilderness.
- Many miles of good fishing streams.
- Hunting for deer and small game is excellent.
- Many historic trails.
- Old mining towns.
- Arrowhead, bottle, and rock hunting.
- Scenic drives.
- Pack stations, horseback riding and recreation resorts.
- Many convenient campgrounds.



Scenic Virginia Lake in the High Sierra near the Hoover Wilderness